

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior listings of the claims with the following:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of preparing a Maca extract comprising extracting small pieces of Maca or a powder of Maca with an extracting solution at a temperature of ~~Extraction method of Maca extract~~, wherein a temperature of extracting solution is from 20°C to 75°C when Maca extract is extracted by adding aqueous solution containing ethanol to small pieces or powder of Maca.

Claim 2 (Original): The extraction method according to claim 1, wherein concentration of the ethanol in the aqueous solution containing ethanol is from 20 to 100 by volume%.

Claim 3 (Original): The extraction method according to claim 1, wherein from 0.3 to 500 by weight% of the aqueous solution containing ethanol is used against 1 by weight% of small pieces or powder or small piece of Maca.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The extraction method according to claim 1, wherein the small pieces or powder of Maca is a residue of watery extraction.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A Maca extract obtained by the method according to claim 1.

Claim 6 (Original): A food and beverage product, a perfumery and a cosmetic and a pharmaceutical preparation comprising the Maca extract of claim 5.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A food and beverage product, a perfumery and a cosmetic and a pharmaceutical preparation according to claim 6, comprising from 0.01 to 99.5% of Maca extract.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A food and beverage product, a perfumery and a cosmetic and a pharmaceutical preparation according to claim 6, possessing an anti-allergic effect.

Claim 9 (Original): An additive or a compounding agent for a food and beverage product, a perfumery and a cosmetic, or a pharmaceutical preparation, wherein Maca extract according to claim 5 is comprised.

Claim 10 (Original): A food and beverage product, a perfumery and a cosmetic or a pharmaceutical preparation according to claim 8, being a candy, a troche, a gum, a granule or a tablet.